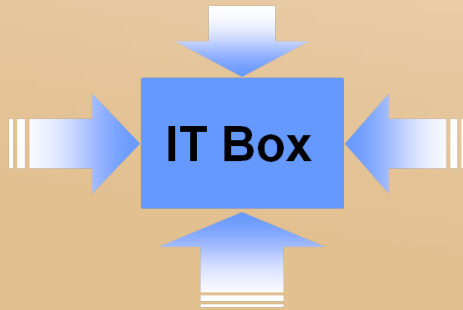




Defense Acquisition University

# The Information Technology (IT) Box A Primer



## Sources:

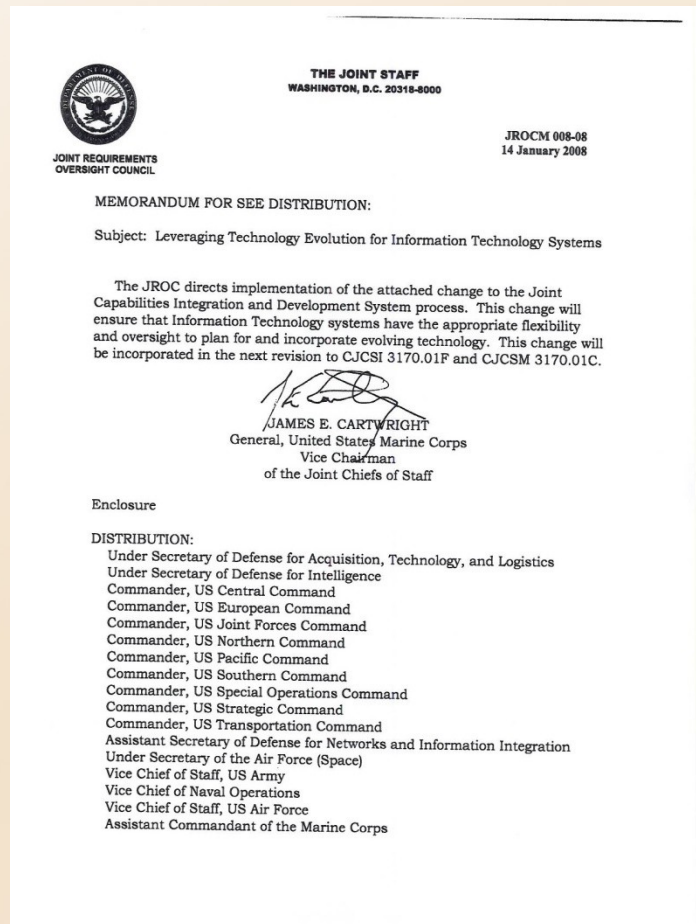
- CJCSI 3170.01H, 10 Jan 2012
- JCIDS Manual, 19 Jan 2012
- Joint Staff, J-8
- Joint Staff, J-6

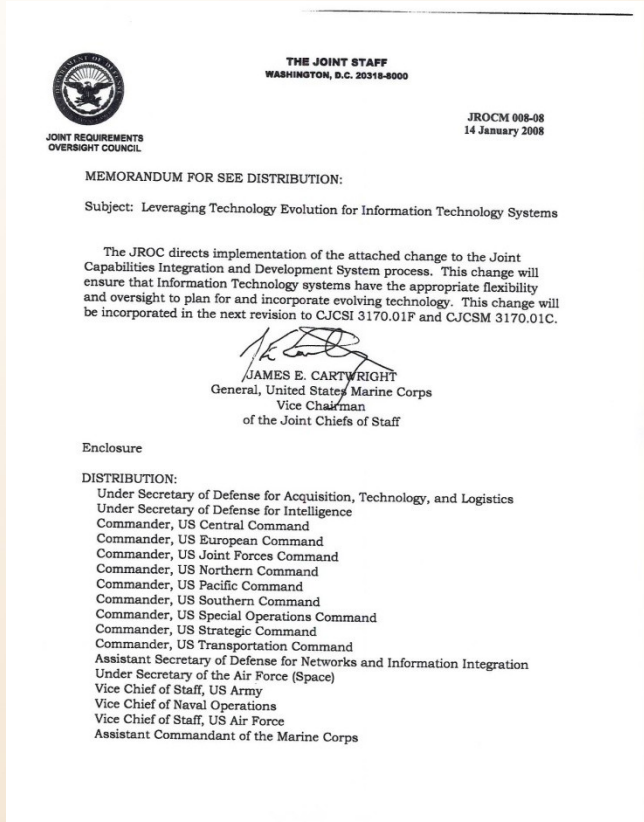
Patrick Wills  
Associate Dean, Executive Programs,  
Requirements Management,  
and International Acquisition  
Defense Systems Management  
College  
Defense Acquisition University  
work: 703-805-4563 cell: 703-615-  
5234

Revised 19 Oct 2012

- IT Box Background
- Assumptions
- Applicability
- Governance
- Application
- Information Systems Initial Capabilities Document (IS ICD)
- Follow-On Documents
- IS Requirements/Acquisition Process
- Examples
- Lessons Learned
- Conclusions

- Why implement an IT box?
- Moore's Law:
  - “The number of transistors on an integrated circuit doubles approximately every 18-24 months.”
  - The US has been able to leverage rapidly-evolving IT for decisive military advantage.
  - However, the JCIDS process does not provide the required flexibility to take full advantage of evolving commercial information technology.
- JROCM 008-08
  - The JROC wants to ensure the IT programs have the flexibility to “plan for and incorporate evolving technology” throughout the program's lifecycle.





- Define minimum capability levels based upon what is achievable with today's technology. (IS ICD paragraph 4 and JROC briefing)
- Describe process for approving capability enhancements. Who will have the authority to manage requirements? (JROC Briefing)
- Describe the plan for delivering capability (JROC briefing):
  - How often will releases of new or enhanced capability be delivered?
  - What is the plan for assessing the application of new technologies?
  - What is the plan for technology refresh?
- Identify the level of effort funding which will be used for the software development effort. (IS ICD paragraph 4 and JROC briefing)

- The Acquisition and Programming Communities Agree That IS Development is Different From Major Weapon Systems
  - Modify their processes and documentation expectations accordingly (modifications to DODI 5000.02 in work)
- The Test and Certification Communities Can Deliver on More Responsive Test and Certification Processes to Enable More Rapid Delivery of Capabilities
  - Necessitates incremental/iterative development and testing
- Validation Authority for Managing Requirements can be Pushed Down to the Lowest Level to Allow for Rapid Changes/Decisions (Currently Within



# Reasoning for Additional Change

- The Current JCIDS Process and Documents are Structured to Support Development of Major Hardware Weapon Systems
- JCIDS and Documents are not Supportive of the Rapid Pace of Development Necessary With IS Systems/Capabilities
  - Previous JCIDS Manual Enclosure C (IT Box process) was a good starting point to address a more agile and responsive process, but requires adjustment – Modified IT Box
- In Conjunction With Changes in the Acquisition Process, the JCIDS Process Needs to be Adapted to Meet the Needs of the Operational User so that New Capabilities can be Delivered Rapidly, and Adapted as Necessitated by Changes in the

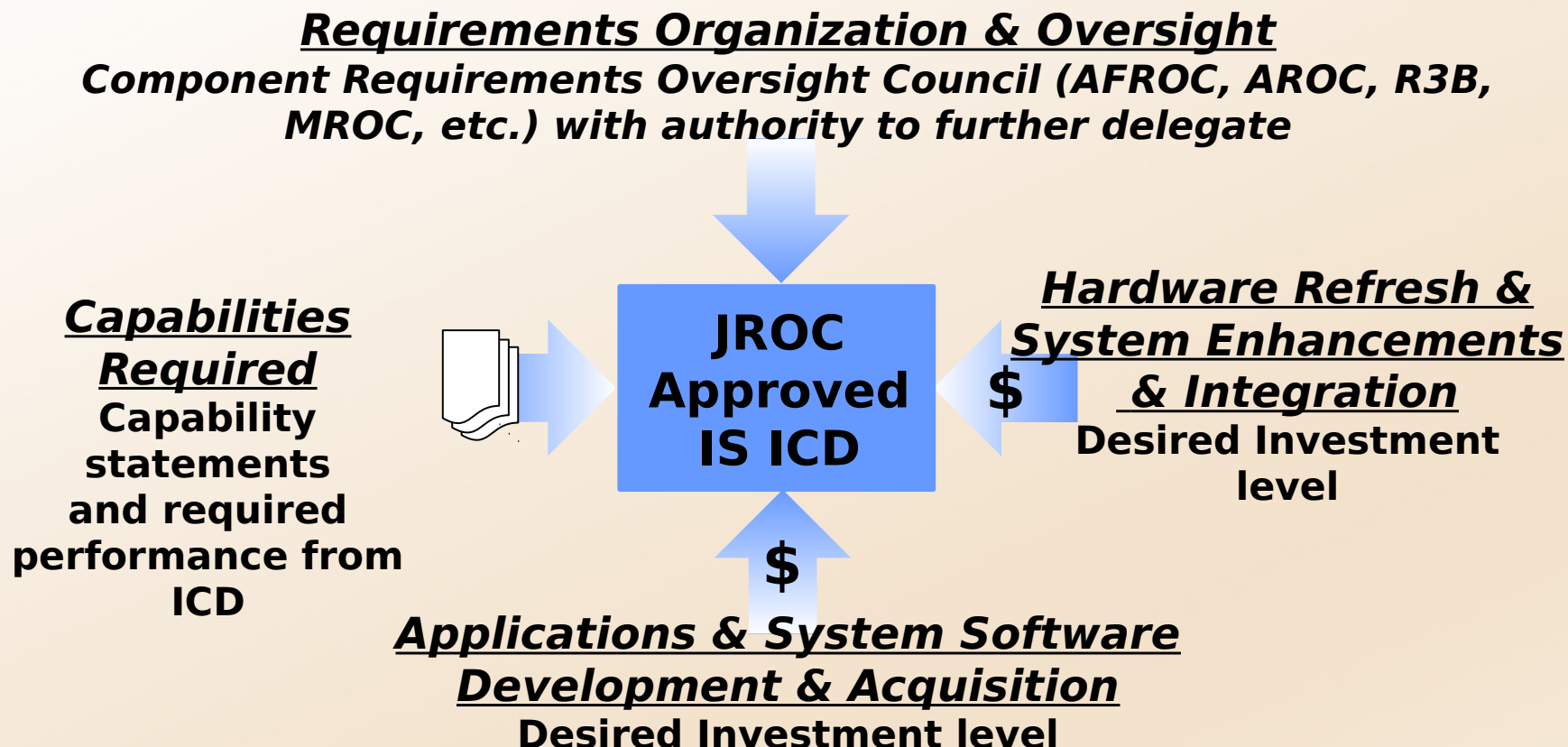


# Applicability of the IT Box

## JCIDS Manual, 19 Jan 2012

- IT Box Applies to:
  - IS with software development only
  - Includes integration onto commercial off-the-shelf hardware
  - Program costs exceed \$15 million
- IT Box DOES NOT Apply to:
  - Systems with a developmental cost less than \$15 million
  - Defense business systems
  - Systems which are an integral part of a weapon or weapon system which enables weapon capabilities and are considered part of the weapon system program
- 19 Jan 2012 JCIDS Manual Expands on JROCM 000-08 by Implementing the “IS ICD”. Provides Greater Flexibility and Alignment with:
  - Sec. 804, NDAA 2010 (Develop new approach for delivering IT capabilities)
  - Sec. 933, NDAA 2011 (Develop strategy for rapid acquisition



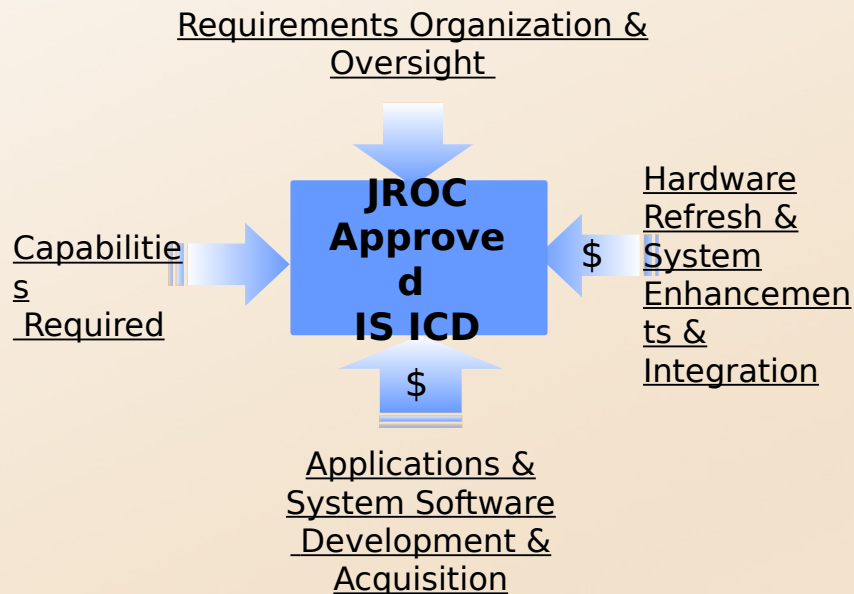


- *Biannual status review by the Lead FCB*
- *No return to the JROC unless new core capabilities added to the ICD*
- *Return if expenditures exceed ROM estimate by 10% or failure to meet performance minimums*



## Key Points:

- Describe the overall bounds of an IS program in order to reduce return trips to the JROC for approval of improved capabilities.
- Provide to FCB/JCB/JROC as part of the approval process for an IS program's ICD.
- Only applies to programs that do not need to develop hardware systems (leveraging COTS/GOTS hardware).
- Once ICD is approved, no need to return to the JROC with a CDD or CPD, unless the IS ICD results in a MDAP.





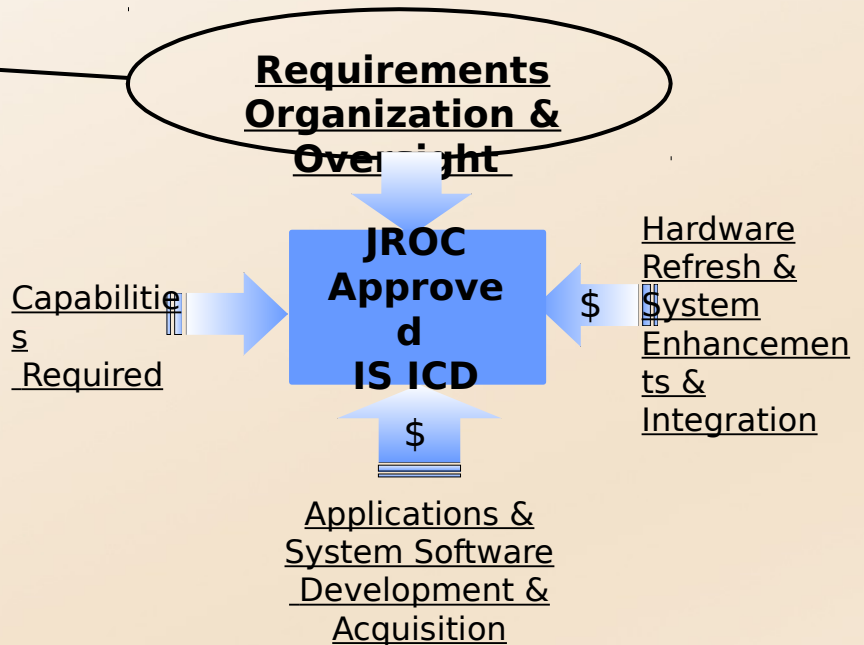
# Governance and Requirements Management

## Requirements Organization And Oversight:

Determines schedule/content of capability releases based upon collaboration between users and the program manager

## Guidance:

- Name the flag-level body holding authority over and governance for requirements
- Identify chair
- Identify represented organizations, including all stakeholders. Include the acquisition community to provide advice on technical feasibility, cost and schedule.

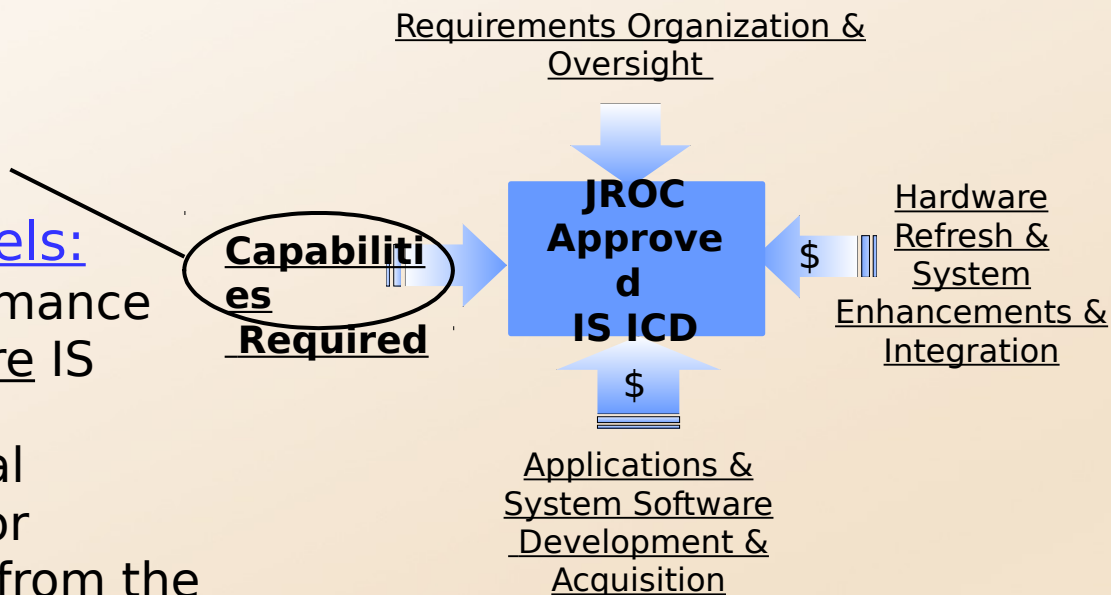


## Validated Capability Requirements And Initial Minimum Levels:

The initial minimum performance levels required for the entire IS program.

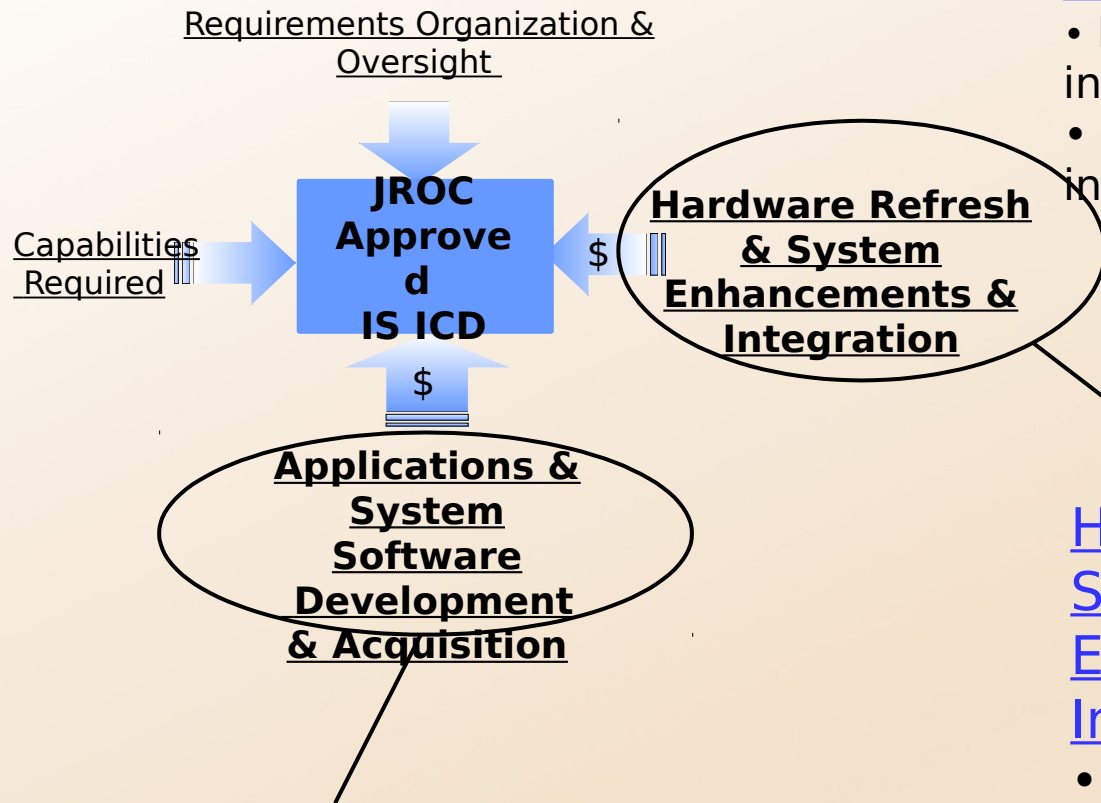
May be less than traditional Threshold values. Allows for incremental improvement from the 70% level to 100% of what would have been the Threshold.

Objective values not required nor briefed. It is understood and expected that performance will move beyond the Threshold as technology capability improves





# Estimated Development and Sustainment Costs



## IS ICD contains ROM estimates

- How much can the DoD afford to invest in this capability?
- Consistent annual level of investment

## Hardware Refresh and System Enhancements & Integration:

- Estimated sustainment costs over the life cycle of the program..

## Application and System Software Development and Acquisition:

- Estimated development and integration costs for the lifetime of the program.



# Information System (IS) ICD

- IS ICDs Implement the “Information Technology (IT) Box” Model
- IS ICDs are Required When the Solution Requires Research and Development, and Acquisition of Applications with a Projected Software Development Cost of Over \$15 Million
- Not Used for Software Embedded as a Subset of a Capability Solution Developed IAW Other Validated JCIDS Documents
- IS ICD Applies to:

Commercial off the Shelf (COTS)/Government off the Shelf (GOTS) software, and associated hardware without modification

Commercial capability solutions with integrated, DoD-specific performance standards

Additional production or modification of previously developed U.S and/or Allied or interagency systems or equipment

Development, integration, and acquisition of customized application software

“IT Box” model calls for fewer iterations of validating documents through the JCIDS process by describing the overall IS program in the IS ICD, and delegating validation of detailed follow-on requirement and solution oversight to a flag-level organization other than the JROC or JCB.

(Con't)

- CDDs & CPDs are Not Required as Successor Documents for non-MDAP IS; Sponsors Have Management Flexibility for Alternate Documents for non-MDAP IS
- JCIDS Manual Provides Examples of Potential IS ICD Follow-On Documents (Actual Names, Content, and Approval TBD by the Delegated Validation Authority):

Requirements Definition Package (RDP) – identifies KPPs and non-materiel changes

Capability Drop (CD) – lower level document that specifies the characteristics of a “widget” or “app” for partial deployment of the solution

- Business IS are not normally subject to JROC Review – However, FCBs have visibility of business case documents posted to KM/DS and if FCB decides the system has “joint equities” can recommend joint oversight.



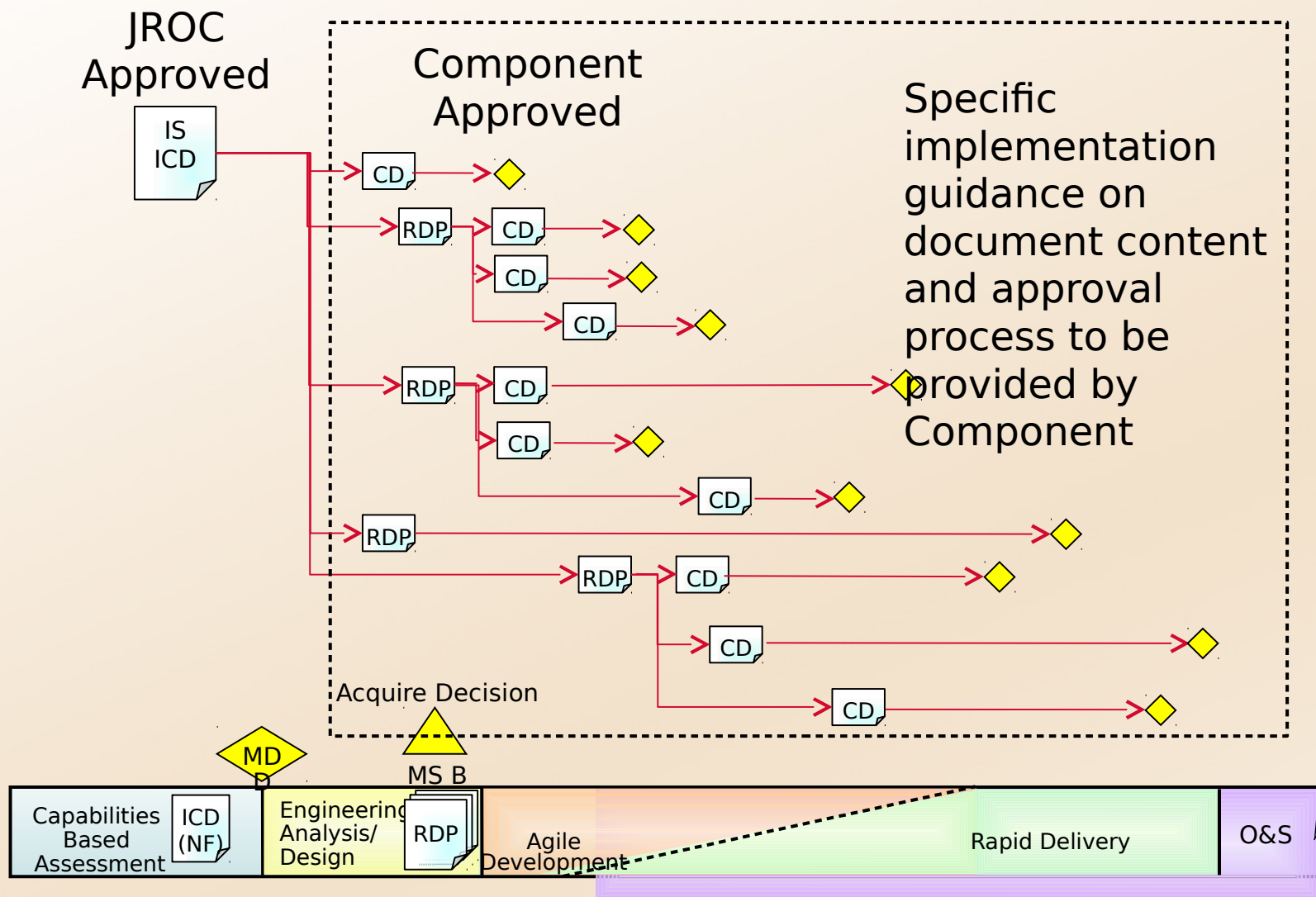
# Requirements Definition Packages (RDPs)

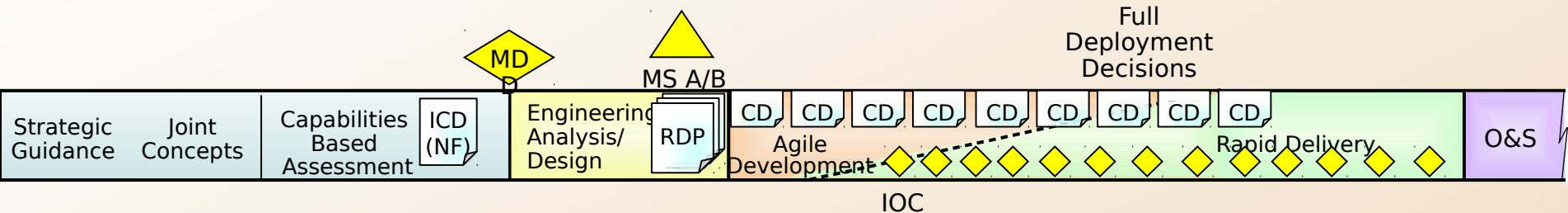
- RDP is an Example – It Is Not a JCIDS Document
  - Created to show how requirements can be broken into deliverable increments
  - Components define content and approval process
- Provides a More Detailed Definition of One or More Capabilities in the ICD
  - Enables detailed design activity
  - Enables detailed costing of the requirements
- Provides a Link Between the ICD (Requirements) and the Acquisition and Programming Processes
- Approved by the Delegated Requirements Management Authority
  - FO/GO-level body that holds authority over, and provides governance for requirements



- CD is an Example – It Is Not a JCIDS Document
  - Managing delivery of capabilities through more specifically defined subsets of an RDP
  - The details of how to do this are left to the components and the acquisition process
- The RDP is Further Broken Down into CDs to Deliver Individual “Widgets” or “Slices” of Capability
- The Results of the CD Development are Released Incrementally Through Full Deployment Decisions as They Are Ready
- Approved by the Delegated Requirements Management Authority and the Component PM

lead





- This Shows a Very Streamlined Process for Truly Agile IS Development
  - The ICD is developed in a new format tailored to IS capabilities
  - Following the MDD, *one or more* RDPs are developed to further refine the requirements for the needed capabilities
  - The RDP is further broken down into CDs to deliver individual “widgets” of capability
  - The results of the CD development are released incrementally through Full Deployment Decisions

- Execution Will Vary Depending on Whether This is a New Set of Capabilities or Whether Capabilities are Being Added to an Existing IS Capability Set
- A New Set of Capabilities is Initiated Through a New IS ICD
- Adding Capabilities to an Existing System May Enter at any Stage Along the Process
  - In many cases, an update to an existing RDP is all that is required
  - A major expansion of capabilities may require a new IS ICD
- Modifying or Enhancing Existing Capabilities Should Only Require a Mod or a New CD to Document What is Needed
  - There may be cases where the mod or enhancement has impact on the architectures or data and this will require a mod to the PDP to fully document the change



# Converting Existing ICDs and CDDs

- ICD Conversion
  - Brief the FCB/JCB on the request
  - Include information necessary for the IT Box
    - Minimum performance for capabilities
    - ROM costs for development and sustainment
    - Identification of Requirements Management GO/FO body
  - Work with FCB to draft appropriate JROCM
- CDD Conversion (for MDAPs)
  - Brief the FCB/JCB on the request
    - Show KPP changes from Threshold/Objective to minimum performance required
    - Identify Requirements Management GO/FO body
    - Capture costs from the Affordability section of the CDD
  - Work with FCB to draft appropriate JROCM



# Example: Integrated Strategic Planning & Analysis (ISPAN)

## Organization & Oversight

Flag-level oversight through ISPAN Requirements Governing Council (IRGC)

Chair: GS/CD

Members: ESC SPM, USSTRATCOM CIO

GS COS, J2, J3, J5, J6

HQ J63, J82, J83

## Key Performance

### Parameters

KPP #1 - 4: define mission planning capabilities required services and critical user access devices: 0.99

KPP # 5, 7, and 8 - define material availability/quality of service performance

KPP #6 Net-Ready requirement

**“Boundaries”**  
**JROC-Approved**  
**ISPAN**  
**Oversight – ASD(NII)**  
**Execute – AF/PEO ESC**

### Hardware Refresh & System Enhancements & Integration

- Per year (FY04-20) = \$22.8M (TY)
- Lifecycle cost = \$387.3M (TY)
- Per FY = \$355.8M average/yr

### Application and Systems Software Development

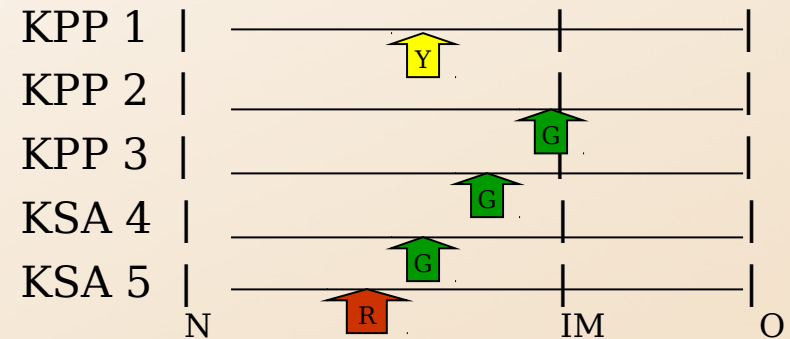
- Per year (FY04-20 = \$54.7M (TY)
- Lifecycle cost = \$929.9M (TY)

# IT Box Cost Driver Quad Chart

## Top Cost Drivers

1. A, % of program cost
2. B, % of program cost
3. C, % of program cost
4. D, % of program cost
5. E, % of program cost

## Performance (KPPS & Select KSAs)

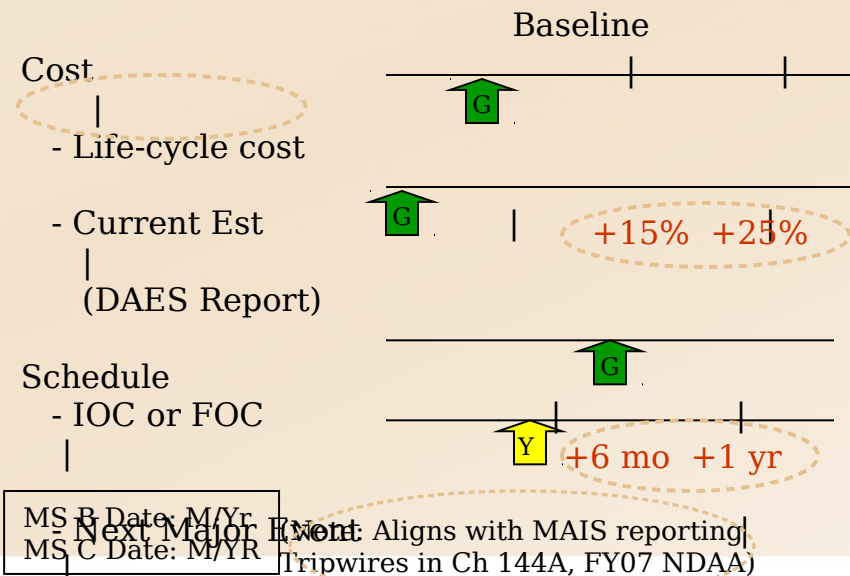


N = No capability IM = Initial Minimum O = Objective

## Technology Readiness Assessment

Critical Technologies	Critical Assessment	Est @ Next Milestone
Technology A	TRL #	TRL #
Technology B	TRL #	TRL #
Technology C	TRL #	TRL #
Technology D	TRL #	TRL #

## Acquisition Program Baseline (APB)




MS B Date: M/Yr  
MS C Date: M/Yr  
Next Major Event: Aligns with MAIS reporting  
Tripwires in Ch 144A, FY07 NDAA





# Example JROCM - Consolidated Afloat Networks & Enterprise Services (CANES)

 **THE JOINT STAFF**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20319-5000

**JROCM 030-09**  
18 February 2009

**JOINT REQUIREMENTS OVERSIGHT COUNCIL**

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics  
Vice Chief of Naval Operations

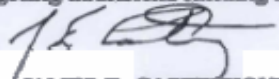
**Subject:** Consolidated Afloat Network Enterprise Service

1. The Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) approves the Consolidated Afloat Network Enterprise Service (CANES) Capability Development Document (CDD) and validates the attached key performance parameters (KPPs). The JROC considers key performance parameters essential to meet the mission need. The JROC delegates change authority for non-key performance parameters to the Navy.

2. The JROC delegates oversight of this program to the Navy led Information Technology Management Council (ITMC) for CANES as directed in the enclosure. The enclosure defines the approved initial KPPs, and the resource constraints placed on this program. The ITMC may approve spiral developments of this capability as long as all initial KPPs and funding constraints are not exceeded.

3. The ITMC will ensure that the CANES CDD is brought back to the JROC if the funding levels identified in the enclosure are exceeded or if an initial KPP cannot be achieved.

4. Should the Navy encounter cost growth exceeding 15 percent of the program development or full lifecycle costs, they shall return to the JROC prior to reprogramming or budgeting additional funding into the program.

  
**JAMES E. CARTWRIGHT**  
General, United States Marine Corps  
Vice Chairman  
of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

- Delegates change authority for non-key performance parameters to the Navy
- Program oversight for CANES delegated to the Navy led Information Technology Management Council (ITMC)
- ITMC may approve spiral developments as long as all initial KPPs and funding constraints are



# Lessons Learned/ Working Issues

- Lessons Learned:

- KPPs in IT program CDDs should be briefed with “Initial Minimums” only vice traditional Thresholds/Objectives.
- PAUC/APUC don’t apply to IT acquisition; use different metric.
- For incremental acquisition, ensure IT box describes entire IT program and not just a single increment (if possible).

- Working Issues:

- Tie-in IT box (requirements piece) with on-gong DOD IT acquisition reform efforts (directed by FY 2010 NDAA)

- The IT box is the right thing to do for IT programs
  - Provides required flexibility for IT program success
  - Allows more effective support to the Warfighter
- High-level guidance and agreement
  - VCJCS, JROC, DOD CIO
  - Supports FY 2010 NDAA:  
*“The Secretary of Defense shall develop and implement a new acquisition process for IT systems .... Based on recommendations for the DSB Task Force on Acquisition of IT.”*
- Must continue close coordination to successfully implement IT box